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Customer No. 20350

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Attorney Docket No. 16869P-011500

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Date of Deposit: October 19, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
BOX PATENT APPLICATION
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 CFR 1.53(b) is the

- ☒ [X] patent application of
☐ [] continuation patent application of
☐ [] divisional patent application of
☐ [] continuation-in-part patent application of

Inventor(s)/Applicant Identifier: Kunihiro Miyazaki, Ryoichi Sakai, Kazuo Takaragi, Seiichi Susaki, Toshiyuki Moritsu, Mizuhiro Sakai, Mitsuru Iwamura, and Tsutomu Matsumoto

For: Digital Signing Method

- ☒ [X] This application claims priority from each of the following Application Nos./filing dates:
Japanese Patent Application No. P11-301216, Filed October 22, 1999
the disclosure(s) of which is (are) incorporated by reference.
☐ [] Please amend this application by adding the following before the first sentence: "This application is a ☐ [] continuation ☐ [] continuation-in-part of and claims the benefit of U.S. Application No. 60/_____, filed _____, the disclosure of which is incorporated by reference."

Enclosed are:

- ☒ [X] 33 page(s) of specification
☒ [X] 8 page(s) of claims
☒ [X] 1 page of Abstract
☒ [X] 12 sheet(s) of ☐ [] formal ☒ [X] informal drawing(s).
☒ [X] An assignment of the invention to Hitachi, Ltd.
☒ [X] A ☒ [] signed Declaration & Power of Attorney
☐ [] A ☐ [] signed ☐ [] unsigned Declaration.
☐ [] A Power of Attorney by Assignee with Certificate Under 37 CFR Section 3.73(b).
☐ [] A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 37 CFR 1.27 ☐ [] is enclosed ☐ [] was filed in the prior application and small entity status is still proper and desired.
☒ [X] A certified copy of a Japanese application.
☒ [X] Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97, Form PTO-1449, and three references.
☐ [] A petition to extend time to respond in the parent application.
☐ [] Notification of change of ☐ [] power of attorney ☐ [] correspondence address filed in prior application.
☒ [X] Recordation Form Cover Sheet.

	(Col. 1)	(Col. 2)
FOR:	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA
BASIC FEE		
TOTAL CLAIMS	33 - 20	= *13
INDEP. CLAIMS	8 - 3	= *5
<input type="checkbox"/> [] MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENTED		

* If the difference in Col. 1 is less than 0, enter "0" in Col. 2.

SMALL ENTITY

RATE	FEE
	\$345.00
x \$9.00 =	
x \$39.00 =	
+ \$130.00 =	
TOTAL	

OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY

RATE	FEE
	\$710.00
x \$18.00 =	\$234.00
x \$80.00 =	\$400.00
+ \$260.00 =	
TOTAL	\$1,344.00

Please charge Deposit Account No. 20-1430 as follows:

- ☒ [X] Filing fee \$ 1,344.00
☒ [X] Any additional fees associated with this paper or during the pendency of this application.
☐ [] The issue fee set in 37 CFR 1.18 at or before mailing of the Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.311(b)

- ☐ [] A check for \$_____ is enclosed.
2 extra copies of this sheet are enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,
TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

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